

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 197

By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to designate June 5, 2011, as "National Church School Day" and June 6 through July 30, 2011 as "Back to Church School Crusade Months" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are proud to recognize and commend those estimable spiritual leaders whose service to their respective communities can only be categorized as outstanding; and

WHEREAS, in 1968, Nettie B. Rogers of Memphis, in her desire to improve the quality of life for those around her, founded and chartered the Memphis Inter-Denominational Fellowship, Incorporated, which she established as a means to build spiritual and moral fiber, promote Christian and public education, eliminate crime and juvenile delinquency, and reduce illiteracy; and

WHEREAS, launching its signature program, the "Back to Church School Crusade," in 1970, Memphis Inter-Denominational Fellowship, Incorporated, enlisted the assistance of the mayor of Memphis, who proclaimed the first Sunday in June as "National Church School Day"; and

WHEREAS, Shelby County government later joined with the City of Memphis and, in 2005, a joint City and County proclamation was issued designating June 5, 2005, as "National Church School Day"; similar proclamations have been issued by the Memphis and Shelby County governments in 2007, 2008, and again in 2009; and

WHEREAS, placing vulnerable youth in an atmosphere of dedication, devotion, and understanding is an important step toward eliminating crime, delinquency, and so many of the other blights that plague our nation's cities; and

WHEREAS, to honor the legacy of the late Nettie B. Rogers and her desire to improve her community and country by advancing opportunities for youth, all places of worship, clubs, organizations, and affiliated groups are encouraged to participate in the observance of "National Church School Day" and "Back to Church School Crusade Months," a time dedicated to the principles of church school teachings; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that June 5, 2011, is hereby designated "National Church School Day" in Tennessee, and June 6 through July 30, 2011, is designated as "Back to Church School Crusade Months" in Tennessee. We encourage all Tennesseans to observe "National Church School Day" and "Back to Church School Crusade Months," by contributing to the positive development of this state's youth.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.